

*Double Number with 40th Annual Report*

# **T O C H JOURNAL**

**NEWS VIEWS AND IDEAS**

**APRIL 1960**



**PUBLISHED BY T O C H AT FORTY SEVEN  
FRANCIS ST LONDON SOUTH WEST ONE**



**1s. 6d.**

## ***'Grab me a Gondola'***

The special performance of The Stock Exchange Dramatic and Operatic Society at the Scala Theatre on February 16 raised the net sum of £525. Added to the proceeds of *Kiss me, Kate* last year, this meets the cost of one of the rooms in the new Mark III, Hackney and brings nearer the time of starting the building scheme.

## ***Warden's Week at Dor Knap***

Charles Young would welcome at Dor Knap for the week beginning Saturday, June 16, any active Toc H members ready to help with practical work in house and gardens as craftsmen or 'labourers'. There will, of course, be opportunities for enjoying the countryside and good fellowship in Charles' company. Cost £4. 10s. 0d. Apply direct to Charles Young at Dor Knap, Broadway, Worcestershire.

## ***Carefree Holiday***

Groton Old Hall is a charming manor house in the heart of the Constable and Gainsborough country, about eight miles from Hadleigh and Sudbury (the nearest railway station). For those who like a quiet do-as-you-please holiday in unspoilt country with congenial company, it is ideal, as those who went last year, both young and old testify. Details of this year's plans were given in the January JOURNAL, and as there are still some vacancies for the last two weeks, August 20–September 3, those interested are asked to write direct to: 'Fergie', Groton Old Hall Weeks, Toc H H.Q., 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

## ***Ourselves***

The Toc H JOURNAL is published monthly eleven times a year. The April issue is a double number and there is no August number. A subscription can commence with any issue and costs only 9s. for a complete year.

N.B.—A price concession to 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free, is made to Branches ordering a minimum of one dozen copies.



THIRTY-EIGHTH YEAR OF PUBLICATION

# TOC H JOURNAL



APRIL 1960

Letters and articles are welcomed and are  
printed as individual points of view only

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Together with a Supplement

THE 40TH ANNUAL REPORT OF TOC H  
*including Balance Sheet and Statement of Accounts,*  
List of Areas and Branches, Home and Overseas

COVER PICTURE: Disc jockeys of Accrington  
Branch sending out a 'Record Request' programme  
to local hospital patients

*Photograph by courtesy of "Accrington Observer", Garth  
Dawson and Fred Vevers*

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### Facts and Figures

THIS IS THE TIME OF YEAR WHEN A DOUBLE-barrelled Journal presents members with an annual opportunity to see for themselves a picture of the Movement as a whole. Beyond its bare facts and figures, the ANNUAL REPORT provides evidence of continued vitality and a readiness to experiment in new ways. The Key-notes operation has now had a full year in which to make its impact felt and, although it takes time for a new idea to percolate, the results to date are encouraging. The plan to provide a much-needed training centre has become a reality and Dor Knap is already a flourishing concern. In some Areas, additional responsibility has been willingly shouldered by District Teams and, not least in importance, the wholtime staff has been most happily reinforced by younger men. As far as the health of the Family Purse is concerned, apart from providing the essential columns of figures in the Statement of Accounts, the summary that accompanies them gives answer to some of the more important questions likely to arise, and underlines the need for continued effort towards ensuring a stable income.

### 'Other Men's Flowers'

ONE DOES NOT READILY PICTURE A GENERAL, in the middle of conducting a major campaign, seeking solace from poetry, although a lingering school-room memory reminds us of Wolfe reading Gray's Elegy to his officers on the eve of storming the Heights of Abraham. Field Marshal EARL WAVELL, in the brief respite after staving off the German attack on the Middle East in the Spring of 1941, for his own relaxation listed his favourite poems and made notes on his choice. Originally conceived as a family folio, under the title *Other Men's Flowers* it reached out to a far wider readership during the dark days of World War II. One extraordinary feature of this fine and wide collection is that it consists entirely of poems that Lord Wavell had learnt by heart: the contents ranging from Shakespeare to Masefield while Browning and Kipling often recur. Now published in a paperback edition (Penguin Poets 5s. 0d.) this is indeed a book worth possessing. Such a well printed production really needs stouter protection and it would be a good investment to slip it into an easily applied do-it-yourself stiff cover.

## Chief Scout as President

ALL MEMBERS WITH SCOUTING CONNECTIONS will be especially glad to learn that the Chief Scout, Sir CHARLES MACLEAN, has agreed to serve as a President of Toc H. Sir Charles, in a letter to TUBBY, wrote: "I have for very many years admired and cherished the work of Toc H. To be connected more closely in this manner is indeed a happy event for me. I can assure you that anything I can do to maintain or strengthen the link between Scouting and Toc H will be done." And in response to a letter of good wishes from the Administrator, JOHN CALLE, he said "... I know that if we both continue to walk along the road which our Father has shown us to be the right road, we will continue to walk together".

## Three points for Youth

CLOSE ON PUBLICATION OF THE ALBEMARLE Report, Sir DAVID ECCLES, Minister of Education last month met representatives of the Standing Conference of National Voluntary Youth Organisations to discuss their role in relation to the Government's plans for the Youth Service. The question of how to undertake the new tasks was not easy, he said, if only because the young were individuals. The Minister emphasised three major points:

1. The central government could not create local enthusiasm—this must come from the local authorities and voluntary bodies.
2. The voluntary principle was vital. While more full-time leaders would be needed urgently, it would still be necessary to place great reliance on voluntary helpers.
3. If the aim of doubling the youth service were to be achieved there must be experiments as well as a continuation of well-tried methods.

## Padres to Poperinge

THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO ARE CERTAIN THAT the Old House in Poperinge can be a most valuable ally to those clergy whose young (and older) parishioners tend to go abroad together on holiday. Having got there, it is cheap, friendly and off the tourist track; but what gives Talbot House a spiritual significance is of course the Upper Room and the influence radiating from it. A suggestion is being mooted that a small number of Branch Padres might like to assess its possibilities for themselves by spending a mid-week period there from July 11 or 12 to July 15. Wives would be welcome. Bruges and Ypres would be included in the programme, and the total cost would be about £11 return from London. The Rev. R. J. Davies, Administrative Padre, would lead the party, and enquiries from those who are interested should be sent to Geoffrey Martin, Toc H Headquarters, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

# Mark Questions

GERRY HAYES



The Hon. Warden of the Brothers' House, Mark XIII, asks if full and effective use is being made of Toc H Marks and calls for a steady stream of young members to take a hand in the practical running of them.

**W**HAT KIND of a society is it a man enters when he takes up residence in a Toc H Mark?

There are seventeen Marks in this country, seven of them in London. At any one time these houses are the homes of some 470 men, mostly in their late 'teens or early twenties. Many of them come to the Marks on the recommendation of Toc H members; but few arrive knowing anything of the Movement beyond the vaguest generalities. They come primarily seeking a place to live, often looking for and expecting no more than a transitory but comfortable background to their workaday lives. In these days, many are full-time students.

Thus, in Toc H matters, new residents in the Marks often start at the beginning of the alphabet, their interest first having to be awakened. Their stay may be three months or three years; or they may be off in a fortnight. From at home and abroad, they come from all walks of life; from every section of society; of every religious denomination or of none. The Mark will be their home. As members of a Toc H family they will learn much of what Christian community living can mean. And let it be said here that the calibre and quality of these young men arriving in the Marks is as high today as ever it was.

**Q** A Mark and its household are part and parcel of the wider Toc H family. A Mark is also a job of service. At its best, it is one of the finest jobs to which Toc H has ever turned its attentions. A Mark can be, and usually is, a wonderful instrument for good; where loneliness is overcome by the team spirit, and little mindedness transformed into fairmindedness: a home where men can "live together in love and joy and peace"; yes, and humour. Yet are we making full and effective use of the instrument in our hands?



Some Marks are the meeting places of consistently strong Branches. But, by the nature of things, as men come and go, all Marks have their ups and downs; and the changes are much more frequent than in any other parts of Toc H. As one Honorary Warden put it when he attended his fifth wedding in a year — "We always seem to be losing our best men. It's back to 'square one' again".

What can the ordinary run of Toc H members do to help the Marks? Must it be left to the faithful few to whom the houses are their first job?

The answer lies first in understanding. And true understanding stems from knowledge. Get the facts right. Get to know the Marks and the men who live in them. Invite the young Marksman to visit a neighbouring Branch — no, not as a passive onlooker at a 'meeting', but as perhaps one of a team of speakers at a Guest-night. Let him tell the Branch not so much about the Marks as about himself, his daily job and his ambitions. And, most important, let him see in the Branches the real Toc H in action.

One great need of the Marks is more Toc H members, living in the locality, preferably the young-in-heart, who will attach themselves to the Marks as 'outmates'; who, by their friendship, understanding and encouragement will become accepted as very welcome members of the Mark family, to whom the young Marksman will gladly turn for leadership and advice. Fortunate indeed is the Mark which has many 'outmates', often ex-Marksmen, standing beside the Honorary Warden, providing a continuity that might otherwise be lacking and contributing more to the full Toc H life than they can ever know.

What more is required? Was there not a story of a Scotsman who, when asked to support an orphanage, sent two orphans?

The best contribution of all would be a steady stream of young or fairly young men who, convinced of their mission and sure of Toc H, would take up residence in the Marks, as their Toc H job: members who would be willing to take a hand in the practical running of the Marks and the Mark Branches. How many young Toc H members in and around Newcastle, for example, are living in lodgings? The Marks are crying out for this kind of leadership. Here is the challenge. Can Toc H meet it?

# Progress at Dor Knap

ALEC CHURCHER

**A**FTER A MONTH or two of somewhat uneasy hibernation, Dor Knap has already come to full life again. The first party of 1960 occupied the house for the first week-end of March and from then onwards until mid-October there will be scarcely a week without its resident party.

The house in winter has a beauty and charm of its own. I spent some days there when the countryside was deep in snow and it was not easy to get a car through to the village and back, and my younger companions risked their necks on toboggans. On a moonlit night, with amber light streaming out across the snow from its low mullioned windows, Christmas card designers of the old school might well have used the house as a model. By day even the fat robins were there, fluttering timidly towards the crumbs thrown out for them. But by the time I left the snowdrops had emerged again from under their white shroud and the first mauve crocuses were thrusting up along the terrace.

During the 'off' season good progress was made with the conversion of the old workshop into a chapel. The roof was completely repaired, some of the Cotswold tiles saved from the re-roofing of the main building being utilised in the process, and a new floor put down. Much of this work was done by a member of Leatherhead Branch, a retired carpenter, who spent more than one week at Dor Knap tackling the job with loving craftsmanship.

At the end of February Charles Young, temporarily released from his job as Area secretary in the Northern Area, from which he can ill be spared, arrived with his wife Kate, known to many members in that Area and elsewhere, to take up residence as Acting Wardens. Toc H owes both them and the Northern Area a great debt for their willingness to come to the rescue in this way while the search for the right permanent wardens continues.

The programme for 1960 is a full and interesting one. From the list of bookings printed overleaf it will be seen that almost every Area has arranged either a week-end or a week's party there, in some cases more than one. In addition there are some special weeks for senior boys from affiliated schools (the one



in the Easter holidays is already oversubscribed), two weeks for a mixed bag of boys (sixteen and over) from schools and from industry, a week for overseas members and two 'central' weeks.

At the end of August under the joint leadership of Alan Hill and David Hewlings, now Governor of Wetherby Borstal Institution, there is to be a party of Marksmen, senior boys from one affiliated school and some borstalians. All these parties will find that there is much work to be done, both indoors and out. This is as it should be for the sharing of physical work as well as mental exercise is an essential part of the Dor Knap experiment. Real fellowship grows best that way.

Even during the winter months, Dor Knap has not been without its casual visitors as the Visitors' Book will testify. Members and friends passing within range on business or pleasure have set their cars full-tilt at the rough and winding drive and arrived on the Knap to have a look round the house and garden and to admire the view from the terrace. Very welcome they all have been but, as spring and summer succeed winter and better weather and longer days encourage more and more people further afield, this visitor business may create something of a problem.

Already letters are arriving from Branches and Districts asking if parties of members with wives and families can be welcomed for day or afternoon visits, usually on a Saturday or Sunday. As reference to the booking list will show, almost every week-end between now and the end of October has been booked for a resident party, each with its own leader and a carefully-planned programme. Parties change over on Saturdays, and week-ends therefore are particularly busy times for the Wardens.

Dor Knap has a job to do and nothing must hamper the doing of it. Big parties of week-end visitors might seriously interfere with the planned programme. This is therefore to be taken as an indication that organised parties must regretfully be discouraged.

Lest it should be thought, however, that Dor Knap was unwilling to share its loveliness with the whole family of Toc H, plans are being considered for an Open Day, probably on a Sunday in July, when all who can get there will be welcome. Look out for news of this in the May JOURNAL.

## Dor Knap Bookings 1960

<b>March</b>	
4/5	Boy Scout working party
11/13	Lincolnshire Area
18/20	Western and East Midlands Areas
25/27	Bordon Company Retreat
28/31	Padres' Conference
<b>April</b>	
1/3	Conference of H.A.C.s
7/14	Schools' Week
15/18	East Anglia Area
20/27	Ashby-de-la-Zouch Grammar School
30/May 1	Cotswold District Team
<b>May</b>	
7/8	S. Wales Division and Marches Division
9/12	Administrative Padre
13/15	Western Area Executive
20/22	Central Executive
28/June 4	Kent, Sussex and Yorkshire Areas
<b>June</b>	
4/11	Lakeland and West Midlands Areas
11/12	East Midlands Area
17/19	Eastern London and South Western Areas
20/24	Women's Association Staff Conference
25/July 2	Notts. and Derby. Area
<b>July</b>	
9/16	Southern Area
16/23	Warden's Week
23/30	Overseas Week
30/Aug. 6	Boys' Week I.
<b>August</b>	
6/13	Boys' Week II.
13/20	Central Week. (Alec Churcher.)
20/27	Central Week. (John Callf.)
27/Sept. 3	Alan Hill's week
<b>September</b>	
3/10	Manchester and Surrey Areas
16/18	Oxford and Thames Valley Area
24/25	S. Wales Division
30/Oct. 2	N.W. Area and Crewe District

*A number of additional bookings covering some of the remaining open dates are awaiting confirmation. Further applications, which should be made in the first instance through area staff, will be welcomed as soon as possible.*

*Little effort has so far been made to make Dor Knap known outside Toc H as the demand for the use of it within the Family has been so large. Remaining dates (and especially Monday-to-Friday periods) will now be considered available for letting to groups of men from kindred societies, churches, etc. A special leaflet has been prepared giving information, terms, etc., for such non-Toc H bookings. (Copies of this may be obtained either from Alec Churcher at Toc H Headquarters or from the Warden at Dor Knap.)*



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## ONE BRANCH

Its story in brief for reading to  
Branches with and without Keymen

ONCE A YEAR our Branch took some old folks for a summer evening's car ramble, giving them supper and temporary friendship. Little else was done until the Christmas firewood was ready for distribution.

Last year Allen was asked to assist the Branch, and his car was filled with lonely people. We asked Fred, a newcomer to the Borough, to sing after supper and his lovely songs still linger in the memory. Allen and Fred were at our next Toc H meeting.

A few weeks later Allen was a new and energetic Keyman, discovering the meaning of Toc H and ways to serve the young and old. Since then our Branch, aided by Allen, Fred and guest-players, has faced bodyline bowling from the local boys' club, and accepted challenges to football matches and table-tennis at youth club premises.

A survey of loneliness among the young and old is now being made, and a party to enable lonely folk 'to extend the range of their friendship' will shortly be held. Men and women will not readily admit to loneliness, for it can be an admission of defeat, but all are glad to be able to make new friends. A threat to fine anyone not talking within thirty seconds of the M.C.'s warning loosens many a tongue.

An S.O.S. card system is now in operation, and new friendships are being formed as the cards are being distributed. The needs of the lonely and the old are gradually being met in this Borough where, before Keynotes, the cry was that there were no jobs to be done. What a different tune on the theme of



service we can sing now, thanks to Allen (promoted to the District Secretaryship) and the largest number of Probationers our Branch has ever recorded in a single year.

This is not the story of original achievement, but the refrain could be sung in every community in the British Isles if we willed it. Keynotes, the name given to a few skeleton keys, is with our imagination and vigour opening new gateways to paths of service and new happiness for the servant and the served.



## **FAR CRY**

### **overseas notes**

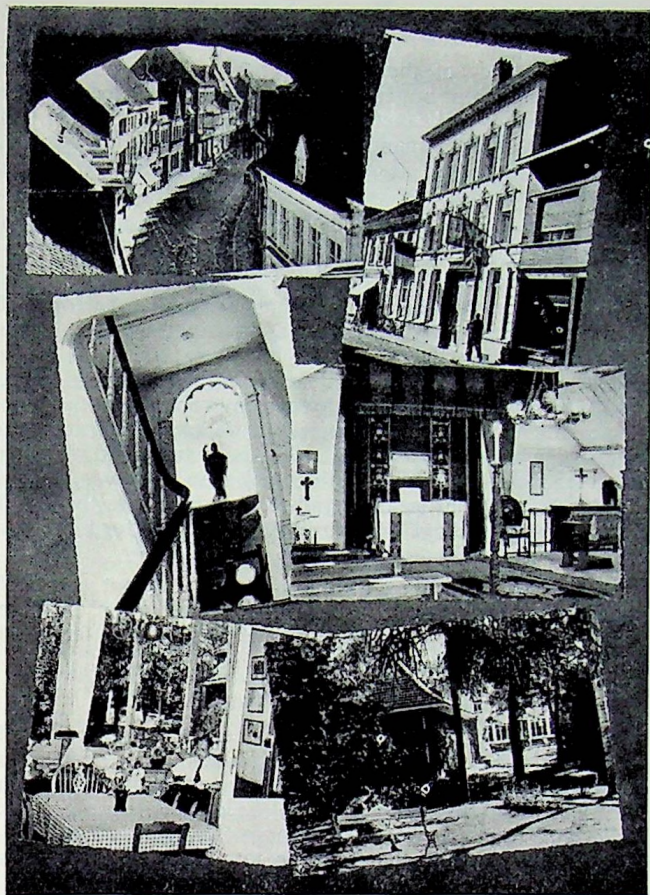
**GEOFF MARTIN**

#### **ON LIVING TOGETHER**

**I**N CORRESPONDENCE with a Natal member I recently asked what his Branch in general felt on the question of race relations. It is often good to know how these vast questions appear to the ordinary Toc H member who is expected to deal with them in practice. This extract shows how the problem is seen at least by one man.

"Yes, I expect you realise well the difficulties faced out here by anyone desiring a more rational relationship between black and white. We are not helped by irresponsible people overseas (and in this country) who take an unrealistic view of things and speak as though the entire problem can be solved overnight.

"You ask what is the attitude of the average Branch member out here. As far as I am qualified to answer, I would say that the sincere Toc H member is facing up to the fact that great changes are inevitable, that taking the long term view the black man is going to have his full say in this continent. At the same time he realises that an immediate and sudden casting aside of all barriers could only result in chaos. There-



This set of six recent photographs of the Old House, taken by Peter Bennett, have now been reproduced as post-cards for sale at Talbot House, Poperinge

fore his attitude is that we must gradually prepare ourselves, and prepare the black races, for the inevitable 'living together'.

"The tendency of the vast majority of Europeans is not towards leadership, but repression. And by Europeans I do not mean only Afrikaaners and/or Nationalists. Here in this town we are predominantly English-speaking, as you know, but the prejudice and desire to repress the black is as strong here as anywhere else.

"Thus we may say: 'Let us show a little leadership by a certain act of goodwill towards the non-European.' Immediately there arises a cry of 'Kaffir Lover'.

"We in Toc H out here, feel that eventually the form of society that must come in South Africa will be one where distinctions will be not of colour, but of natural class. I do not mean class in its 'snobbish' sense, but in its natural form. And, I say, we are willing to prepare ourselves, and the non-Europeans for that inevitability. But we are a minority. As matters are at present, we are convinced that instead of being led to the inevitable situation, the black man will *force* himself there *in spite of* European prejudice. In which case there will certainly be bloodshed, and hatreds that will last for hundreds of years to come.

Q "Believe me, I dislike saying a thing like this, but as one of our members said at our last meeting, the situation out here will continue to boil until a majority of men learn to fear God rather than their own and their neighbours prejudices."

### "BRAZEN NEWS"

"We heard from Norman Wood recently. His story is of interest—or should be—to all Branches who sometimes despair of catching new members. Norman, whilst serving in the Fleet Air Arm in 1953, *picked up a JOURNAL in Sliema, Malta* and found there was a group at Urmston. We corresponded and saw to it that Norman got a Toc H Services pass which he used to good effect at Hong Kong and Singapore. Demobbed, he joined up with us until in 1955 business took him permanently to Stevenage. A transfer followed and Norman now writes to tell us that the *Hitchin Group of which he is Chairman has now received its Lamp!* Sometimes the seed although small is cast upon most fruitful ground. But it needs good staff work in the Branch!"

*From the Manchester Area news letter of this name.*



# Seeking Esau

P. B. CLAYTON

**"Discarding games, Toc H will never reach its zenith". wrote Tubby in last month's Journal. Here he emphasises the need to draw sportsmen and migrant men into the Movement, together with the vital part played by Padres and Jobmasters**

**M**EN WHO PLAY GAMES for exercise and fun have few ulterior motives in their hearts. Pot-hunters are a curious race apart, and Pros. are still more rarely in Toc H. I may have had good luck in those I have met. Many of them have been fine-living chaps with very decent homes and real ideals. I think of Jerry Driscoll and his brother, who used to teach us boxing at St. Paul's; and of young Beaumont, a fine Soccer star who played for 'Pompey' when I was at Portsea, and died when his career had scarce begun. The Hartley Wintney Branch, one of the best, had Adrian Stoop, his home and his dear wife, right from the first behind it in its growth. Had Ronnie Palmer lived, Toc H at Reading would have gone on from strength to strength in Christ.

## Overseas development

In Overseas development, I think of Abrahams, Chief Justice of Kampala, who was our host in 1934. He used to introduce himself by saying: "Make no mistake, I am not the famous Abrahams—he is my brother, and I am proud of him".

And far up-country in my native State of Queensland there arrived as a new hand ( I think it was in 1925) young Braund, the son of Somerset's famous magician behind the stumps. The story goes that when he was discovered on that lone station all the station hands got him to coach them in their game of games, and from his pupils he built up a team which had no need to join Toc H itself, scarcely then born in Queensland; but they shared, each in their turn, the job he had undertaken which he could not accomplish every week. Out on the rails across a good few ranges a boundary man, by then well on in age, lived with his wife, also advanced in years. He did not like to leave her week by week to come into the station for the mail and for their groceries. He had no choice until Braund

took on the job. He could not do it without others joining him. His pupils volunteered to pay him thus. The groceries and mail went out each week. Braund spread the Gospel without preaching it.

Why not collect some further instances, and thus teach sportsmen how they can best help and bring their vigour to the Toc H cause? The time has come for it to breathe afresh. Surely God never meant it to become a smug and small society of folk ardent at worshipping their parish pumps and prone to cackle like the House of Lords dividing in respective lobbies. Jacob when settled down now joins Toc H. What about Esau? Where does he come in? Yet it was Esau we set out to find.

The earliest definition of Toc H is: "An act of constructive penitence designed to consecrate mobility". How did this definition come to be?

The Padres' Fellowship, superbly led by Pat McCormick, Stone, McHardy and Fleming, went on for years, long after World War I. The main big problem they were up against was that the men they had known and tried to serve, and come to love, were often unchurched. The parish system by itself is framed mainly to deal with faithful families still living in their old unchanging homes, or else near by. Their children when grown up seldom departed from the neighbourhood. The family is the unit of the parish.

### **Migrant men**

In World War I the Chaplains all discovered that many thousands of the men they studied were migrant men in their peace-time careers. Up-bringing was a distant recollection, and even schools had tempted some from home. Thus they were strangers to a Parish Church, pawns in a mobile world, controlled like puppets. Churches did not intrude into their lives.

Yet in these men all thoughtful Chaplains found, behind a portico of pagan thought, features and instincts which they recognised as far from foreign to the cause of Christ. What could be done, when now demobilised, not to relinquish any further study of such men's needs and notions, right or wrong? These thoughts led on to obvious conclusions. The Churches represented by the Chaplains were called upon to set aside a team of Chaplains picked to carry on this study. Each Chaplain would be housed and fed and paid. He could not be Warden

of the house, since this might hinder its attractiveness, nor would he choose the Warden by himself; yet he could veto any unwise choice on which he could not steadfastly rely. Nor could a Chaplain ever be allowed to be the Chairman of a local Branch, since this might lead to clerical inflation. He was to be the Chaplain and nothing else, friend and adviser to the men on board and all their friends and further friends beyond.

A constellation of these local Branches would thus grow up around the mother Mark. The Chaplain would be learning all the time, left free to study men of all conditions brought to the house by twenty human magnets picked from a wide divergence both in age, in up-bringing, in outlook, and in faith. Thus Mark I register of visitors, mainly on Guest-nights but all round the year, recorded 1,760 in twelve months. This was exceptional, but the Marks were open houses to all guests brought in by any member of Toc H.

### Lessons learnt

No Area Padres had then been appointed, though they became much needed later on. Thus every whole-time Padre in Toc H was chosen as a student of mankind, who would report in due course to his Church what lessons he had learnt as to the reasons whereby the men, whose mobile life he studied, found their conditions foreign to Church life. If there was any help that he could render, he would be proud to do it, without fuss.

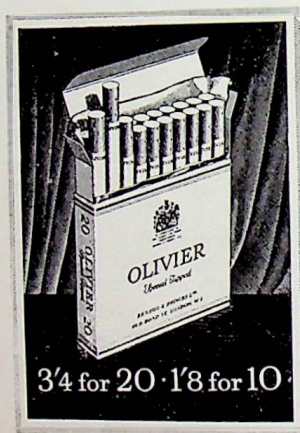
The text then uppermost within Toc H came from St. John, VII. 17 "They who do God's will shall know of the doctrine". Out of this same text the Jobmaster, a layman, then arose. He played the jolly tyrant in the Mark, seated like Father Christmas on a heap of minor tasks, each thoroughly worth while, on which newcomers could then try their luck and start to activate in quiet ways, *unthanked, unpaid, unnamed*—that was the code. Strange friendships were thus formed, and helped both sides. The voluntary worker went to seek this or that stranger. When he found his target, he asked him to a Guest-night of Toc H. No Branch could be content with members only. The instinct was to reach beyond our grasp. Here was adventure to a high degree within the common ways. Rough and unpolished strangers arrived. Some facet in their nature began to be at last more clearly seen, and jewels were discovered underneath.



One rainy night two members went together on a bus to a Guest-night. Behind them sat a man in a trench coat. When one was laughing at the other's yarn, the man behind was bold enough to tap one of the pair upon his shoulder blade. "Tell me the joke", he said with bitterness. They turned round and repeated it to him, and asked him to come in to sup with them. He said that he would leave the bus when they also had to halt, beside the Thames Embankment—that was his destination, he remarked. Perhaps they noticed extra bitterness. When they left the bus, they waited there, and argued and constrained him to become an extra guest. Two of these three are dead. One can still remember the occasion. The uncouth guest those two brought in that night had spent his last penny on that bus ride. Had it not been for overhearing them laugh at a joke—an honest one at that—a sense of envy in that desperate man could never have aroused in his sad heart the wish to give his life one more good try.

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# OLIVIER



is the **TIPPED**  
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of the day

Fine Tobacco  
Tipped for Coolness  
Quality with Economy



## Multum in parvo



**much in little**

☛ Sir CHARLES MACLEAN, Bart., the Chief Scout, has accepted the invitation to become a President of the Toc H Association.

☛ RAY FABES will become Area Secretary in Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire at the end of April.

☛ TUBBY will be visiting the North-Western and Manchester Areas from May 2 to 6.

☛ REG H. STEWART has been appointed to the staff with a view to his becoming Area Secretary in Scotland.

☛ A report of the Annual Meeting of the CENTRAL COUNCIL on April 30 and May 1 can be given by Councillors to Branches and will be included in the June Journal.

☛ Nominations of candidates for election as CENTRAL COUNCILLORS for 1960/62 are due from Branches by May 14.

☛ KEYNOTE CONFERENCES on May 7-8 at Overstrand, Norfolk; on May 13-15 at Mamhead Park, near Exeter, Devon; on July 9-10 at Gilbertson Hall, near Swansea, South Wales; and on October 7-9 at Philipps House, Dinton, Wiltshire.

☛ HOLIDAY MEETINGS: Branches at holiday resorts wishing the JOURNAL to invite visitors to their weekly meetings throughout the season are asked to notify their Area Secretary by April 25.

☛ RALLIES: Oxford & Thames Valley, Reading, May 7; East Midlands, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, May 21; London Sports, Battersea Park, May 21; Southern Traction Engines, May 21.

☛ THE NOTTS AND DERBY Fête and Gala, with brass band contest, will be held at Carr Bank Park, Mansfield, on Saturday, June 18 (not in May).

☛ Toc H will be the object of 'The Week's Good Cause' Appeal on all BBC Home Services at 8.25 p.m. on Sunday, July 31.

☛ The FESTIVAL of Toc H WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION will be held in London on October 29 and 30.

☛ 'PEOPLE TO PEOPLE': The Week of International Friendship from November 20 to 26.

☛ THE WORLD CHAIN OF LIGHT will start in New Zealand and will be observed on Sunday, December 11, at 9 p.m. by local time.

# The Elder Brethren

ANDREWS.—On February 15, WILLIAM FRANK ANDREWS, aged 61, a member of Andover Branch. Elected 17.6.'58.

CANVIN.—On February 12, JOHN ALBERT CANVIN, aged 68, a member of Bedford Branch. Elected 14.12.'26.

EGGLETON.—In December, STANLEY BERTRAM EGGLETON, aged 42, a member of Swanage Branch. Elected 21.4.'52.

EBDEN.—On February 13, THOMAS EBDEN, aged 53, a member of Keighley Branch. Elected 22.5.'58.

FIELD.—On February 21, the Rev. ARTHUR FIELD, aged 87, a South Western Area member. Elected 25.2.'29.

FRETTER.—On January 5, ARTHUR EDWARD FRETTER, aged 49, a member of Lutterworth Branch. Elected 12.11.'59.

HART.—On February 18, R. W. VICTOR HART, aged 60, a member of Iwer Branch. Elected 1.12.'25.

HOWARD.—On February 9, Major THOMAS HENRY HOWARD, aged 78, a member of Hallam Branch. Elected 1.5.'57.

HUME.—On February 10, JAMES REDPATH HUME, a member of Newtown St. Boswells group, Roxburgh.

LACY.—On January 19, BENJAMIN JOHN LACY, aged 93, a member of Seal Branch. Elected 9.10.'56.

LUNT.—On February 16, JAMES LUNT, aged 49, a member of Nantwich Branch. Elected 19.1.'59.

MICHELL.—On December 24, THOMAS HAROLD MICHELL, aged 65, a member of Shoreham-by-Sea Branch. Elected 12.1.'46.

PACKER.—On February 4, CHARLES WILLIAM PACKER, aged 56, a member of South Petherton Branch. Elected 6.2.'51.

PAINE.—On December 5, LEWIS CHARLES WILLIAM PAINE, aged 49, a member of Mablethorpe Branch. Elected 3.4.'52.

PARRY.—On February 7, RICHARD WILLIAM DELWYN PARRY, aged 58, a founder member of Portmadoc Branch. Elected 2.1.'37.

PHILLIPS.—On January 29, WILLIAM HERBERT PHILLIPS, aged 78, a member of Bridgwater Branch. Elected 25.3.'31.

PLOWRIGHT.—On February 6, ERNEST SLATER PLOWRIGHT, aged 75, a member of Cirencester Branch. Elected 11.4.'30.

PORTER.—On February 23, THOMAS PORTER, aged 73, a member of Marlow Branch. Elected 25.5.'51.

SHEEN.—On February 5, the Rev. JAMES ALFRED SHEEN, aged 72, a member of Keighley Branch. Elected 5.11.'36.

## In Memoriam

### VICTOR HART

When we heard of the sudden passing of Vic Hart, 'With proud thanksgiving' were the first words that so readily came to mind. Shock of course but not sorrow, we are proud that we have known him, privileged to have been with him and thankful for all that he has done.



Area Vice-Chairman of Oxford & Thames Valley, Pilot of Wexham District, Methodist Local Lay-Preacher, Apostle of Christian Unity, for he was a beloved friend of the Anglican Benedictine Community at Nashdom Abbey; a friend to whom any man could turn for help with the certain knowledge that he would not be sent away empty.

The moment the large form and smiling face of Vic appeared at a meeting a different atmosphere could be felt and all bickering ceased. Here was one who walked with God. The love and sympathy of the whole Area go out to his wife and family and to Iver Branch.

W.T.T.

### THOMAS HENRY HOWARD

For several years before the last war, Tom was the director of 6FL, the Sheffield radio station. The station had its own Children's Hour during which he broadcast to the youngsters. Later he became successively a publicity officer for Sheffield Corporation and an official of the North-Eastern Development Board at Newcastle.

During the last war he was a civil servant, and just after hostilities was with the Allied Control Commission in Austria. More recently he was on the staff of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

Major Howard was an accomplished linguist, speaking French, German, Polish and Italian. When he was seventy-five, he decided to learn Dutch, and passed examinations in that language. S.W.

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## Toc H at Redbrick

### SIMON ALLARD

A WHITE-HAIRED MAN of ninety-four sat up with a start of interest, and his pipe clattered to the floor—a rather scantily clad Joan Collins had just appeared on the screen! Two of our members, working for the Toc H Film Unit, which serves bedridden people, smiled at each other, and realised that they had helped to bring this old man alive and no mistake.

Of course it is not the film so much as the chat and cup of tea afterwards, when the ninety-two year old man has someone, to whom he can show his home-made rugs, of which he is inordinately proud; when, for a short while, the Seventh Day Adventist has a couple of potential converts; and when the

eighty-five year old man can try out some of his riddles and give his recipe for long life, "always breathe through your nose, my boy".

The Film Unit was bursting at the seams and could take no more than twelve of us, so we needed another outlet. Lauri Lucena, speaking to the University of Bristol Toc H Circle, told us that there were many patients, who were making no use of Toc H Hospital Broadcasts. Something which might so easily have been nothing more than a handing round of record request cards has, in fact, given many a greater zest for life.

Here again the initial purpose is only a fraction of the story, what really matters to the patients is that there is someone prepared to lend a sympathetic ear to memories of sixty years ago; to get a library book or a piece of ribbon, and above all to make friends.

Of course there are the sticky customers, who refuse to talk, but they are the challenge which provides the real excitement. In any case, it is usually only a shell of bitterness, which can be and is, repeatedly broken through.

There was the man who refused to do his occupational therapy, and wanted nothing more than death, and yet the next time the group came round, he showed them, with tremendous pride and excitement, a completed basket which he had made.

After one of these 'expeditions', the matron rang up the group leader to say how grateful she was for two visits, which had made all the difference to an old lady of eighty-five, who had given up the will to live. What a reward.

### **Example and inspiration**

But the group by no means does all the giving. There was the example and inspiration of the man dying of cancer, who remained cheerful to the last, and of the man, with little more than a lot of determination, who wanted to adopt six refugee children of different nationalities. There was the patient, who, on discharge, felt he wanted to do something, and is now a regular visitor. There was the cheerful good humour of the woman, who told us, "I'm a Methodist myself; but I've six grandchildren and the Pope's got the lot", and everywhere a smile, a willingness to have a chat and do something towards promoting the happy atmosphere of helping one another.

Success, as always, has been due to the fact that the members really enjoyed themselves, and numbers leapt from four in November to thirty today; but hospital visiting does not appeal to everybody. Three or four have got involved in a Boys' Club, and started a Maths class within a fortnight—not bad going! Another three or four visit blind people, of which there are over nine hundred in Bristol.



A hospital visiting group from Bristol University Toc H Circle

The Church of England Children's Home occupies another two or three, with its small group of children aged between one and four, who seem to have a habit of wetting their nappies whenever our members are with them. The most popular request is to touch the ceiling—so one of the members gets upon a table, and holds the child perilously aloft so that a grubby hand can leave a mark for posterity on the fast greying ceiling!

From the decision to branch out and become active last Summer, the University Toc H Circle has found nothing but excitement, because really worthwhile things have been achieved by young men and women with no previous experience. The future? There is every hope of further expansion although that has its dangers. One thing of which we can be sure, in Bristol, is that there will never be a shortage of jobs.



# Going Places, 1960

## PARTIES TO: POPERINGE, BELGIUM & HOLLAND OBERAMMERGAU



**A**PRIL 14-19. EASTER WEEK-END at Poperinge. Mixed party led by Miss ELSA PERRIN. Enquiries to LESLIE GOSDEN. Toc H Headquarters, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

**M**AY 13-16. MIXED PARTY based on the Old House, Poperinge, for younger members led by RAY FABLES and BRIAN KINGSLEY-DAVIES. Enquiries to Brian Kingsley-Davies, 42 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

**M**AY 28 & 29 OBERAMMERGAU. Some vacancies in Toc H parties going to the Old House, Bavaria and the Tyrol on fortnight's tour. Places assured for Passion Play.

**J**UNE 4-7. WHITSUN PARTY to the Old House for Marksmen and other male members and friends. Enquiries to J. H. CLARK, Toc H Headquarters, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

**J**UNE 13-20. OVERSEAS MEMBERS. Enquiries to *Overseas Secretary*, Toc H Headquarters, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

**J**UNE 25-JULY 2. MIXED PARTY. Five days in Bruges; tours to Brussels and Antwerp and two days at the Old House. All-in cost, London-to-London £18 15s. Write to F. G. CHESWORTH, Editorial Office, Toc H H.Q., 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

**J**ULY 11 OR 12-15. UNIT PADRES (and wives) led by the Rev. R. J. DAVIES. Enquiries to G. Martin, Toc H Headquarters, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

**J**ULY 16-23. MIXED PARTY, to Poperinge including two days in the Ardennes. Enquiries to MRS. LOUIE CARTER, 109 Chester Avenue, Luton, Bedfordshire.

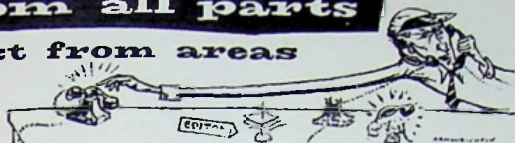
**A**UGUST 13-27. MIXED PARTY. week's visit to Holland, followed by week in Belgium, five days in Bruges and two days at the Old House. Details from F. G. CHESWORTH, Editorial Office, Toc H Headquarters, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

**A**UGUST 27-SEPTEMBER 3. HEREFORD BRANCH mixed party, visiting the Old House Poperinge. Others welcomed if there is room. Enquiries to RALPH SANDERS, 10 St. Paul Road, Tupsley, Hereford.

**A**UG. 27-SEPT. 5 OR SEPT. 3-10. FIRST WEEK: Greyfriars (WA) Branch, mixed party, to Ostend, Bruges and Poperinge. SECOND WEEK: open party for the energetic at Old House; Hop Fair with visits to Bruges, and neighbourhood. Enquiries to Miss Shirley Jones, 63 Barmouth Road, Rumney, Cardiff.

For details of any of these party arrangements, please write without delay to the person whose name and address is given above.

## From all parts direct from areas



### KENT

from Tom Bailey

When the prison at the Western Heights, Dover, was changed to a borstal, the governor asked Toc H members and friends to be ready for any other work he might find them to do.

Eventually, in July, 1958, the Invicta Club was opened at the borstal by the Mayor of Dover. Membership of this club is a privilege of the top-grade boys who have their discharge in view.

The clubroom, beautifully decorated by the boys themselves under expert guidance, contains a full-size billiards table, a tennis table and dartboards for the more energetic, and easy chairs and small tables for those who like card games, dominoes or even jig-saw puzzles.

The club is open every Wednesday and Sunday from 6 to 9 p.m. and is served by stewards who are members of Toc H and Toc H Women's Association, together with others outside the Movement.

Only the governor and four housemasters of the borstal staff are permitted to come to the club as honorary members. Their visits are only occasional, so there is no supervision of the boys except by the stewards. The principle of self-discipline by the boys works admirably.

### NOTTS & DERBY

from Les Wheatley

To undertake any kind of general survey of the Area is full of dangers, not the least being in sticking one's neck out to be shot at. Where things are not as they should be they stick out like sore thumbs. On the other hand, the good things continue unsung. This must also be a risk of standing far enough back to see 'all in one'.

One of the common needs which the Area has become aware of is in the 'over-democratisation' (blow me down!) of leadership within the Branch, and the opportunities for leadership by the Branch in the community. On the first count, it is hoped through a training effort to re-emphasise the place of Branch officers, individually and collectively, as functionaries and as leaders. These aspects we believe to be essential if a Branch is to be fully effective in operation.

On the second count, there is ample scope for leadership to be exercised by Branches in the community as the agency through which goodwill can be harnessed in the service of others and the spirit of voluntary service stimulated. This does not necessarily mean there is no leadership in either of these directions. But it does mean that Toc H being what it is must not be content with minimum achievement but with maximum effort.

In two Districts there has evolved the idea of District gatherings instead of District Teams. In both cases there has resulted a much keener interest in wider affairs. It is too early to say if the District Team idea will be superseded. At the same time, it is not an idea which has or will commend itself to all Districts in the Area.

## **NORTHERN**

from Andrew H. Corcoran

Silence is said to be golden! For some thirty Toc H members in the North-East there was an opportunity to test this during a week-end at the Retreat House of St. Cuthbert in Low Fell, on February 6-7.

Conductor of the quiet week-end was Padre Jim Davies, who assured us that retreats normally involve twenty-four, or even thirty-six, hours of silence; where even "Please pass the salt" is frowned upon at meal times.

For most of us present the quiet week-end was a new experience, and everyone approached it in a receptive frame of mind: to retreat, to withdraw, in order to return strengthened for the task. The first session of silence was dissipated by good humoured chatter, but after that we conformed to the dictates of the occasion, but not for twenty-four hours. Did we leave Low Fell any the wiser?

It has always been recognised that leisure and reflection are of immense value to the individual, at any rate in reasonable proportions. The value of Low Fell was similarly subjective each for himself to assess. The sessions conducted by Padre had nothing new to impart yet they enriched knowledge because we had time to think and had little opportunity to talk the topics away.

We had time to listen to the spoken word, and time to react to feelings. We had time to look inward and time to look outward. "Each Man's death diminishes me" said the Elizabethan poet and preacher, John Donne. But the obverse also applies—"through every man is my life enriched".

## **SURREY**

from Brian Kingsley-Davies

Many Branches have tackled the problem of Road Safety in a variety of ways, but WOKING Branch started activities because one of its members felt it essential that his son should be taught to ride his cycle correctly.

Six members showed interest and, after digesting leaflets and instruction books, started a training session at one of the local schools with the assistance of a Police Sergeant. The Headmaster welcomed the effort and permitted the use of school classrooms and playground for an hour on one evening each week.

In a course lasting four weeks, the children were taught how to adjust and maintain their cycles and how to ride them correctly, especially the difficult task of turning right at cross roads. Knowledge of the Highway Code was also expected of them when they took the test. The local authority assisted on the financial side.

The job involves these instructors in one hour per week and an occasional Saturday afternoon for the tests throughout the year with the exception of the school holidays.

Last year the Branch was responsible for 360 boys and girls passing the National Cycling Proficiency Test and in the four years that this scheme has been in operation in the locality some 1,300 children are much better road users as a result of this training.

Surely there is no better job that we can do than to assist in this training. Great satisfaction is felt at the completion of this task in which one has prepared one more child for the 'battlefield of the road'. At least one other Branch in Surrey has members assisting the scheme—won't you do something about it? Now!!





*Kent Messenger*

L. A. Pope shows fellow members of Canterbury Branch the banner made by members of the Buchenlust Toe H group, when they were prisoners-of-war in 1943

## SCOTLAND

from R. A. R. Leslie

Giving a brief account of the Scottish Region isn't particularly easy. It would have been quite simple to report on the activities of those units who are making a definite impact on their communities. It would have been equally simple to castigate the units who are apparently content to confine their activities to the weekly meetings and are not particularly worried about their obligations to either their communities or the larger Family of Toe H.

In Scotland we are still without a Staff man and the Scottish Executive has the problem of communicating with the Branches. Theoretically, this should be simple—the Executive is composed mainly of representatives of District Teams which are in touch with the Branches. Does this work out? I'm afraid not.

The energy and enthusiasm of the Scottish Executive are simply not being carried on down the chain to Branches. This weakness couldn't have crept up on us suddenly but must be inherent in our structure. Hitherto it has been concealed because we have had a Staff man who could get around the Branches, bringing news of the wider Family and letting the ordinary Branch members see that they were not forgotten.

This is not the place, nor am I the right person, to suggest remedies. I think the answers will be found and I don't view the situation with despondency. The Executive is alive to its responsibilities and I think it has the support of most Branches. I am quite sure that some way will be found for all concerned to get together and make a real success of Toe H Scotland. Incidentally the views expressed are my own and I look forward to being called to account in due course.

## WESTERN

from Johnnie MacMillan

'Youth' and 'Training' are two topics which crop up in many conversations in the Family of Toc H. Both come in for a variety of criticism, little of which is really sound.

Toc H can still attract young men and women providing it will allow them—wherever possible—full responsibility for the organisation of their own affairs, and in addition gives them maximum opportunities to serve the community. Toc H BRISTOL UNIVERSITY group speaks for itself in an article which appears in this issue.

Regarding 'Training'—whilst we may not always be clear what we mean by this, it is quite obvious that members will take advantage of opportunities of sharing sessions which are not just "grousing occasions" but real outward looking efforts to see some little way ahead in the life of our Movement. This is not only with members of the Western Area, but together with those from other Areas. The weekend arranged at Dor Knap with East Midlands Area is an indication of this desire, in that all the places available could have been filled twice over.

## EAST ANGLIA

from Peter Vere-Jones

"Well it's flat! and I'm afraid you will find it very cold at this time of year!" How can people be so unromantic? For this was the sort of thing I was told about East Anglia before I came. I am sure in the years to come if I am asked about this part of England my first thoughts will be of the dark, rich, fertile-looking soil, or the clear, crisp, blue winter skies. And, of course, the people! Here I have met some of the most warm-hearted, friendliest people I have met anywhere in England. Especially so of course within Toc H where it doesn't matter where you are or how much of a foreigner, or what strange ideas you have about British politics or local transport!

I have met very few Branches where I have not felt 'at home', and that of course is part of what Toc H is about and it is very much a part of Toc H in East Anglia. This is borne out not only in the 'familiarity' of Branches but also in the kind of service undertaken, which arises from a very sincere belief that the responsibilities we bear toward our neighbours are very much the same as those we have to our own families. Here in East Anglia I have found much of the service is of a very personal nature which shows a real concern for people.

I think one of the most exciting projects I have heard of is being discussed in the Norwich District. For quite a time some members have been concerned about the struggle patients from mental homes have to readjust themselves to everyday life after a longish time out of society. Financial and residential difficulties being very real to some of these folk. It is believed that a type of hostel run perhaps on the lines of a Toc H Mark, being in itself a family unit, is needed, not only for ex-mental patients but for many who are finding it difficult to live happily in their present surroundings, whether from financial or personal reasons.

There is, I am sure, a very real need for such a place and, so far, although nothing definite has been put into action, other local bodies have expressed a wish to support the scheme if anything eventually comes of it. I really believe this is the sort of big adventure Toc H should be thinking very seriously about. Faith can move mountains and it can certainly build a home in Norwich if there is a real need.



*Southend and County Pictorial*

P. Veness (right) Chairman of the Leigh Branch, at an international meeting, chats with visitors from France, Nigeria, New Zealand, Indonesia, and Somaliland

## **EASTERN LONDON**

from Jim Green

A new group is meeting in ILFORD at 40 Argyle Road on alternate Fridays at 8 p.m. The group largely consists of former members of the ILFORD Branch which unfortunately had to close about a year ago. Newcomers will be very welcome. The secretary is J. H. A. Hasted, 22 Clarendon Gardens, Ilford, Essex.

## **LINCOLNSHIRE**

from George Lee

In the second largest county in the country, contact has not been easily maintained amongst the scattered Districts of the Area. During the past year, however, Inter-Unit and Inter-District visiting has tended to eradicate feelings of isolation. Whilst none of the Branches are particularly strong numerically, many of them instance what can be done in small communities.

In the Marsh District the small and scattered village of MALTRY has a Branch which over the past ten years has maintained a regular membership with a purposeful and active programme of meetings and of jobs.

In the Fen District where time is an important factor to so many of the members working on the land, the winter programme means solid work. Last year however, PINCHBECK EAST Branch raised over £44 for the Family Purse by the sale of hulbs. SPALDING were the instigators of the annual Fête which raised over £110 for the Family Purse, and PINCHBECK WEST, another small and scattered village, were able to purchase and rebuild their own Headquarters out of a disused Chapel.

In the North East Lines District there has been a renewal of energy in the Branches probably due to the work of the District Team, whilst in the Louth District, though small in number of Branches, there has been a desire for both consolidation and extension, all very healthy.



The Southwold District maintains a sound record and one of the Branches claims no less than five of its members as serving on local Councils.

Tucked away in the South-Westerly corner of the Area, the Welland District have solidly plodded on and centred upon Stamford, that ancient township, have sought to make their witness relevant to present-day situations.

The Humber District, the strongest numerically in the Area, performs quiet but effective work in the northerly part of the Area, with BARTON-ON-HUMBER Branch making good use to the community of their Headquarters, aptly named Community House.

The other District, the West Wolds, being the most scattered of all the Districts, is making great strides, containing the newest Branch in the Area whilst one of the older Branches has recently had an influx of no less than six teenage lads.

Though contact during the summer months has often been difficult to maintain, the greatest drawback to the Area seems to be the lack of suitable and convenient transport, both private and public. It is therefore very much to the credit of so many members of Area Executive and District Teams that the work has been so progressive and meetings so well attended. For 1960 the hope is that the adoption of the scheme for Promotion of District Teams will prove another effective step forward in the witness of this Area.

## EAST YORKSHIRE

from Bill Hardy

From an excellent summary prepared by Padre L. Rivett from Branch *Regarding Jobs* returns, we find that the predominating rural aspect of our Area is reflected in the number of Branches involved in village halls, maintenance of churchyards and war memorials. The emphasis in East Yorkshire in the field of personal service lies in 'jobs' among the old, the sick, and the handicapped.

Communication between Branches in a rural area by direct visits presents travelling problems, and as an experiment we are trying out a monthly *Area News Sheet*, which we hope will keep us more in touch with one another. A 'Keynote Team' has been formed and is busily engaged in visits to Branches, infecting us all with their own healthy enthusiasm for the Keynote Projects. The team is a small band of Keymen, who were inspired to take on this work following their participation in the Keynote Conference at Askham Bryam last year.

YORK District Team is arranging a follow-up conference of Keymen, to be held at the Welfare Social Centre, York, on June 18. Branches who have not yet appointed Keymen will be invited to send representatives. The excellent facilities of the Centre (new premises) have been placed at the disposal of Toc H for this purpose in recognition of the services YORK Branch give to the blind and handicapped in the city.

A Joint Training Day for East and West Yorkshire Area Executive members is to be held in Harehills Congregational Church, Leeds, on May 21, and will commence at 3 p.m. The venue for the annual Yorkshire Conference this year will be Bridlington Town Hall. Dates: Saturday and Sunday, September 24-25. Bookings for the conference and for accommodation can now be obtained from BRIDLINGTON Branch Secretary, George Gosling, 68 New Burlington Road, Bridlington. Book early and avoid disappointment!

## BEDS. & HERTS.

from Frank R. Figg

The floor of HEMEL HEMPSTEAD's loft groaned under the weight of men from six Branches whom their Central Councillor, Alan Hawkins, had invited to meet Jack Harrison and hear an explanation of the Movement's Finances. Similar meetings arranged by other Councillors are being arranged in convenient centres, including LUTON, BEDFORD and STEVENAGE, so that in time every member in the Area will have had the opportunity of getting from the Finance Secretary a clear and first-hand impression of the workings of the Family Purse.



*Bristol Evening Post*

Members of Street Branch seen getting the stalls ready for their annual 'Petticoat Lane' in St. Crispin's Hall

## WEST YORKSHIRE

from Ron Smith

A campaign in accord with the aims of Toc H was launched at Hall Royd Methodist Sunday School, Shipley, last month.

Members of SHIPLEY Branch have prepared colour slides to illustrate a tape-recorded commentary they have built up into a programme entitled "All Roads Lead" and this first showing was to an invited audience.

**Q** "All Roads Lead" shows something of the former unity of the Christian community, represented by attractive slides of Yorkshire abbeys and churches; its present diversity of sects; and leads up to an appeal for reunification.

More than a hundred colour slides have been prepared by Mr. C. D. Braithwaite and Mr. R. E. Jackson with the commentary by Mrs. B. Braithwaite and Mr. G. Preston. Four local ministers gave views of the Anglican, Methodist, Roman Catholic and Congregational Churches on reunification.

Toc H members hope that other church organisations will invite them to present "All Roads Lead" at one of their own meetings.

FROM ALL PARTS

## MARCHES

from T. Romanis

In this Division the work of the Keymen during the past twelve months has shown steady progress and from all the reports there is plenty of action taking place. In all, ten of the Projects are being tackled and nine Branches out of the twelve are involved.

The small country Branch of BISHOP'S CASTLE dealing with Projects 2 and 12, has now reached a very interesting stage in its work. The Branch set out to find the needs of a small town community. They tackled the job by first compiling a list of all the residents in the Borough from the Electoral Rolls, in a book classified in streets. The next task has been to fill in all the information, as to religion, hobbies, connection with other organisations and notes on special individual needs.

They have now reached the stage of making a condensed list showing the aged, potential probationers for Toc H membership and items of special note. From this list are being taken immediately the names of possible probationers and they are now being approached by members on a personal basis. Progressively, the needs of the aged and young will be tackled as disclosed by the Branch's research.

## SOUTHERN

from Fred Brooker

"The Doctor's Work", is what the Branch in HAYLING ISLAND call the job. It all started with the Branch helping one of the local doctors to organise a car service from the Island to the hospitals in Portsmouth. (If you are wondering how this can be, have a look at your map, and you will see that Hayling Island is connected to the mainland by a bridge.) The bus service is infrequent, and means a change or two. Those who can afford to do so pay for this service, but Old Age Pensioners are taken free. A band of sixty volunteers are now carrying on the scheme.

The same doctor then told the Branch of other needs he had come upon in his daily contact with his patients. The need for healing of the Spirit and the Mind; without which the healing of the body is often difficult.

Aged folk in need of comfort and friendship, the housebound, those with failing sight or hearing, the lonely, both young and old.

The spiritual needs of folk who can no longer get to a place of worship, and of those who through the years have lost their Faith, and those who have never had the gift of Faith, and who now face the fears of the unknown alone.

All these things and others were on the doctor's mind, and his great concern was passed on to the Branch. Something must be done.

This is what they did. The Pilot made contact with the other doctors on the Island, with all the churches, the Red Cross, Old Peoples' Welfare, and several other local organisations. Telling them of the need locally, and suggesting that the Toc H Branch should act as a clearing house for the names of those in need of help and friendship.

This is happening now, and hardly a day passes without a name being sent to the Pilot, who passes it on to the Branch Jobbie, or to the church concerned, or to one of the other local organisations who are helping, or sometimes to a neighbour of the person needing a helping hand. Who can tell where this job will lead, but I believe that Hayling Island will become more of a family because of it.



## SUSSEX

from Cyril Cattell

"Training without Tears" would have been a fitting title for the evening recently organised by WEST SUSSEX District, and also enjoyed by some members from SOUTHDOWN, their neighbouring District. The main purpose was to consider together the qualities we might reasonably expect to find in a Branch Chairman.

After one member had set the ball rolling by giving his views, others came in with great gusto either to support him or to deliver well-aimed broadsides. It was interesting to note how many and different opinions could be sincerely held and expressed.

One view which was generally accepted was that poor chairmanship—and there is some—was in most cases the result of lack of preparation for the meeting. In many cases the chairman/secretary partnership was almost non-existent. This was bound to be reflected in evenings spent together when it was anyone's guess as to why we had come.



More woodchoppers, this time at Hailsham, Sussex, where the Branch members provide kindling throughout the year for sixty old people.

Let it be said, however, that due credit was also given to known chairmen who do a really excellent job! There was no doubt that many present supported the widespread practice whereby members take their turn as leader of Branch meetings.

Refreshments over, six 'guinea-pig' chairmen 'volunteered' to hold forth on subjects previously prepared. In due time the ringing of a bell told them their period of ordeal was over. It was now the turn of the 'customers' to weigh in with their observations—and how critical they were!

This was probably the most rewarding part of the evening, because not only was much learned of the difficult art of chairmanship in Toc H, but the straight-from-the-shoulder comments showed in no uncertain fashion the depth of fellowship enjoyed by all.

## OXFORD & THAMES VALLEY

from Tim Tobias

The news is general this month and not of individual Branches. Six have not as yet returned their Branch Rolls and have only themselves to blame if until they have done so they do not in point of fact exist.

*Regarding Jobs* has shown the significant fact that 200 members are actively involved in jobs with the help of 179 friends. This only goes to show how easy it is to interest the outsider by calling over the garden fence for help with a job.

Plans are well ahead for the Area Rally on May 7 at Reading. There are still a few more vacancies for the week-end September 16-18 at Dor Knap. Names to the Area Secretary as soon as possible.

## LONDON

from Mayne Elson

We shall all greatly miss Sam Evans, who is leaving the Toc H Staff after five years as Padre to S. London and S.E. London Areas. Sam is a London Welshman and started out in life to be a lawyer. World War II put paid to that; he played a full part in the Friends' Ambulance Unit in Scandinavia and China. He joined Toc H in 1950 at Saffron Walden, where he was Branch Padre and an Area Executive member.

In London he has been both leader and partner in our adventures, not sparing himself and always ready to take real trouble to help anyone in difficulties. Without our being made aware of it, he has also been carrying important responsibilities in the Congregational Church and since March, 1959, he has been Hon. Headquarters Padre to the Toc H Women's Association.

His careful thinking and lucid expression in writing and discussion have caused many of us to think more deeply. Best of all, he has suffered us fools, if not gladly, at least with unfailing friendliness and good humour. Now Sam returns to a Congregational pastorate at Lee in S.E. London, where he will be in close touch with the local Branch. Our warmest gratitude and good wishes go with him and his family.

## WEST MIDLANDS

from Bob Purdy

Many members in Birmingham have long been aware that Toc H ought to be making a greater impact on the life of the city than it does at the present time. A fine work is being done at community level by members and Branches, and we certainly need more and more new units within the city, especially on the New Estates.

Patterns of life are however changing, bringing more and more difficult problems and nowhere is this more keenly felt than in a city like Birmingham. Industrial relationships. Leisure. Family Welfare. Prison welfare and visitation. Youth and its needs; Old people; Lonely people and the disabled who are unable to leave their homes; and so on. There is no end to the challenge that these and other problems will continue to present and which Toc H must face if it is to be true to itself, and to survive.

We need to pool ideas and plans and ask the expert to advise and help but we, most of us, recognise that many of our units are too small to provide the *venue* to which we may invite an outstanding leader or speaker to give us new vision and incentive to meet the challenge of the present exciting days in which we live. There is a real need for a focal point in the city where the membership of Toc H can meet frequently together, where we can invite the young man, the student, the young business executive, the more experienced leader in community affairs, that quite candidly some of us would hesitate to invite to the Branch as it now is, and where too we could not fail to receive the impetus and encouragement that a frequent get-together of the Birmingham Family of Toc H would give.

To meet this situation a series of monthly meetings, under the title "Toc H Forum", commenced last month. Meeting in EDGBASTON Branch's room, with representatives from five Branches, a Speaker on 'Youth', with special reference to the Duke of Edinburgh's Award, provoked a lively discussion and produced valuable information.

## Journal Smalls

Small Advertisements must be received (with remittance) by the first day of the month preceding publication. The charge is 6d. a word (minimum 6s.). Editorial Office: Toc H, 47 Francis Street, London, S.W.1.

### HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

**B**RUGES. Toc H parties and individual visitors to this lovely city are offered good accommodation and a warm welcome at **HOTEL JACOBS**. Early booking advised. Write: M. Liettaert, Hotel Jacobs, 1 Ballestraat, Bruges, Belgium.

**C**OUNTRY COTTAGE HOLIDAYS. House modernised. Central Snowdonia and North Wales Coast. Part or Full board residence as required. Terms apply: Rev. & Mrs. John Jones, Brynhyfryd, Trofarth, Nr. Abergele, Denbighshire.

**W**ARDEN MANOR calling! Fully booked for Easter but come and join another weekend party in Spring or book for your summer holiday. Recommended by our Founder Padre you can rely on good Toc H fellowship here. Quiet holiday on beach and lawns or join in our round of activities. £5. 12s. 6d. weekly (Non-profit). Some twin rooms (bring wife or friend). Single vacancies. Telephone Eastchurch 238. Brochure from Vic and Bill Martin, Warden Manor, Eastchurch, Kent. (Near cliff-edge with magnificent sea views.)

**H**OLIDAY accommodation available at Eastbourne for two or three people (no young children) £2. 2s. 6d. per week plus small charge for gas and electricity. Please write for full particulars to Ernest A. George, 8, Gildredge Road, Eastbourne, Sussex.

**W**ESTON-SUPER-MARE. Apartments or Board Residence. Mrs. M. Spink, 2, Newton Road, Weston-Super-Mare, Somerset. (Widow of late Toc H member.)

**K**NOKKE, BELGIUM, for golden sands, bathing, sand-yachting, sports and entertainments. Within easy reach of the famed Cities of Art. Moderate-priced, modern hotel, excellent meals. English spoken, highly recommended. For details write to Mr. Georges Liettaert, Hotel Britannique, 31, Avenue van Bunnan, Knokke, Belgium.

### INEXPENSIVE HOLIDAY.

Women's Association member offers use of bungalow at reasonable charge: Apply Mrs. O. J. Blackabey, 20 Berkeley Avenue, Parkstone, Poole, Dorset.

### LET BEAUTY BRING BENEFITS

Profits for World Refugee Year and Family Purse. Gladioli Corms. Dutch grown. 14 cms up. Colours: White, claret, lilac, pink, purple, salmon, scarlet, yellow and mixed. Price 4s. 6d. doz. 31s. 6d. per 100. Carriage paid over £3; add 2s. 6d. for orders under 31s. 6d.; 3s. 6d., 31s. 6d.—£3 for postage. Renowned locally, offered now to all Toc H members by Edmonton Branch. Orders, with cash please, to W. E. Bruton, 101 Latymer Road, Edmonton, N.9. List of varieties sent on receipt of s.a.c.

### SAFETY RAZOR BLADES

Gilllette and 7 o'clock slotted type only, when used but not rusty or wrapped, for sale to benefit the Family Purse, welcomed by Peter Cubitt, 34 Baydale Road, Darlington, Co. Durham.

### STAMPS. Gifts of Foreign Stamps

and Great Britain (4d. values and over) are always welcomed by Toc H Stamps Appeal. Please note change of address—C. H. Wake, 475 Roxborough Avenue, Rockcliffe, Ottawa, Canada. Mark Packets 'Free Gift'.

Used foreign stamps will also be welcomed, to help the World Refugee Year appeals, by the Rev. R. W. Tuesday, 263 Mansel Road, Millbrook, Southampton.

### ENVELOPES. Good quality cream

laid, 4½ x 3½, with Toc H crest on flap. 3s. per 100, direct from Toc H Publications Dept.

### WHERE TOC H MEETS—

Attractive display cards. New design in black, white and amber, with space for Branch details. 3 for 1s. 6d. from Toc H Publications Dept.



**BBC**  
HOME SERVICES

**TOC H  
APPEAL  
July 31**  
8-25 PM

TOC H has accepted the offer of the B.B.C. of another Week's Good Cause Appeal for Toc H funds on Sunday, July 31 in the Home Service (sound) programmes.

THE FIVE MINUTES of the broadcast will be made a peg on which to hang a widespread appeal and publicity campaign. Branches and members will be invited to distribute appeal letters and leaflets and also to arrange special efforts, shop-window and library displays, etc., to make the fullest possible use of the occasion.

A later announcement will be made about the speaker.

PLEASE BOOK THE DATE:

**SUNDAY, JULY 31**

—the day before August Bank-holiday